

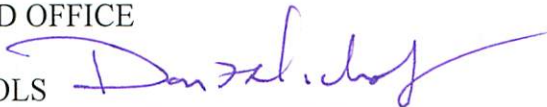


Department of Energy
National Nuclear Security Administration
Washington, DC 20585



August 5, 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR JEFFREY P. HARRELL
MANAGER
SANDIA FIELD OFFICE

FROM: DON F. NICHOLS 
COGNIZANT SECRETARIAL OFFICER

SUBJECT: Request for Delegation of Nuclear Safety Authority

REFERENCE: (1) Memorandum from Jeffrey P. Harrell, Manager, *National Nuclear Security Administration Sandia Field Office* to Don Nichols, Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Safety, Infrastructure & Operations, *Request for Delegation of Nuclear Safety Authority dated July 06, 2015*

(2) NNSA Business Operating Procedure 07.001, *Delegations of Nuclear Safety Authority*, dated October 28, 2014

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Sandia Field Office (SFO) has requested Nuclear Safety Delegations (Reference 1) for Mr. Michael Duvall as a result of his assignment as Deputy Manager of SFO. This memorandum approves the requested delegations for Mr. Duvall.

Mr. Duvall's qualifications and experience were evaluated and documented per the NNSA Business Operating Procedure for Delegations of Nuclear Safety Authority, Reference (2). Mr. Duvall has completed qualification as a Senior Technical Safety Manager (STSM), but has not yet completed Nuclear Executive Leadership Training (NELT). Therefore, compensatory measures are required per Reference (2).

Until such time as Mr. Duvall has successfully completed NELT, the delegated authorities should only be exercised with the compensatory measure of documented concurrence of Mr. Daniel Pellegrino, Assistant Manager for Operations, SFO, or Mr. James Todd, Assistant Manager for Engineering, SFO. Both Mr. Todd and Mr. Pellegrino are qualified as STSM and both have completed NELT. Disagreements related to these delegated authorities are to be vetted through the NNSA Differing Professional Opinion process. Upon successful completion of NELT, the need for these compensatory measures will be reviewed.

The SFO capabilities were evaluated in 2014 when, in lieu of a Chief, Defense Nuclear Safety (CDNS) Biennial Review, SFO was tasked to perform a self-assessment against



the CDNS Criteria and Review Approach Documents. Seventeen of seventeen functional areas met expectations as a result of the review.

Additionally, during the CDNS Biennial Review conducted in February, 2012, the team reviewed the exercise of delegated nuclear safety authority in the areas of Startup and Restart of Nuclear Facilities and Safety Basis. The team found that SFO was continuing to appropriately exercise these authorities. This review also found that SFO staffing was a concern in the Nuclear Safety Specialist and Fire Protection Engineer areas. SFO is working closely with other NNSA Offices to utilize qualified staff from field and functional offices to ensure oversight of nuclear safety at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) is maintained. The conclusion from the assessment is that SNL senior management attention is needed to ensure progress is maintained. SFO has implemented an effective framework of processes and procedures and has access to adequate resources to properly implement the delegated authorities.

The following nuclear safety basis authorities are delegated to Mr. Michael Duvall:

Safety Design Basis - Approval Authority for new or major modifications to Hazard Category 2 and 3 nuclear facilities, which includes new and changes to Safety Design Strategies and associated approval documentation, Conceptual Safety Design Reports (CSDRs) and Conceptual Safety Validation Reports approving CSDRs, Preliminary Safety Design Reports (PSDRs) and Preliminary Safety Validation Reports approving the PSDRs, and Preliminary Documented Safety Analyses and associated Safety Evaluation Reports (SERs).

Safety Basis - Approval Authority for new or existing Hazard Category 2 and 3 nuclear facilities, which includes new and changes to Documented Safety Analyses, Technical Safety Requirements, Unreview Safety Question procedures, Justifications for Continued Operation, and SERs provided no mitigated consequence to offsite personnel exceeds the evaluation guidelines.

Startup - Approve startup of Hazard Category 3 nuclear facilities and high hazard non-nuclear facilities.

Restart - Approve restart of Hazard Category 2 and 3 nuclear facilities and high hazard non-nuclear facilities.

In accordance with Reference (2), please ensure the compensatory measures identified above are documented each time the delegated authority is exercised.

These delegations remain valid while Mr. Duvall are serving in his current position and are maintains STSM qualification.

The NNSA Central Technical Authority is in concurrence with the approved delegations with the compensatory measures specified above.

If you have questions please contact Sam Johnson at (301) 903-7957.

Attachment

cc: James McConnell, NA-50
Patrick Rhoads, NA-50
Jeffry Roberson, NA-51
Michael Duvall, SFO
Daniel Pellegrino, SFO/OPS
James Todd, SFO/ENG